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ROBESPIERRE

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ELLEN TERRY



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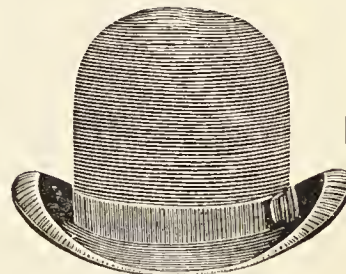
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ARGUMENT.

ROBESPIERRE'S RISE.—The revolutionary spirit, which a long course of misgovernment had engendered, had fairly broken out, and from the Assembly of the States General a series of momentous events marks the ever-increasing violence of its onward progress. Chief among these may be mentioned the fall of the Bastille, 14th July; the abolition of privileges; the death of Mirabeau (1791); the flight of the King (2nd June, 1791); the taking of the Tuileries; the dethronement and imprisonment of the King, followed by the establishment of the Republic (1792), and the execution of the King in the following January. Two great parties are now rivals for the supreme power in the State, the Girondists or Moderate Republicans, called the Plain from their filling the body of the Chamber, and the Jacobins or Red Republicans, called the Mountain from the raised benches which they occupied. In the ensuing struggle the Jacobins proved victorious, and the leaders of the Girondists were executed, 2nd June. Henceforth Marat, Danton and Robespierre were omnipotent, and inaugurate the Reign of Terror. But divisions and intrigues soon disintegrate the party. Danton is accused and condemned of reactionary designs at the instance of Robespierre, and at this point the action of M. Sardou's play commences. Robespierre, now virtually dictator and resolved to sweep all opposition from his path, passes his notorious Law of Prairial, which made possible the hideous judicial massacres of the Terror; whilst nearly concurrently and as a counter demonstration to the declared atheism of a handful of his adherents he obtains the sanction of the Convention to a religious festival at which he himself officiates as High Priest of the Supreme Being, whose existence is formally recognized. But jealousies and intrigues were slowly undermining his authority.

ROBESPIERRE'S FALL.—The functions of Government were at this time discharged by three distinct bodies, all of them equally responsible for the horrors of the Terror, and pledged to prolong its sanguinary rule. We have in the first place the Convention, a representative body corresponding in the main to our House of Commons; secondly, the Committee of Public Safety and General Security, elected by the Convention from their own body and forming a species of permanent Cabinet with unlimited powers; and thirdly, the Jacobin Club, Robespierre's stronghold, which was, in fact, an irresponsible association, but all-important as the focus and mouthpiece of the rabid radicalism of Paris. At the opening of the play Robespierre is still all-powerful, but the atrocities perpetrated under his dictatorship have started a reaction which grows apace, and the infection gradually reaches some of Robespierre's colleagues, who, perceiving the altered current of public opinion, determine to abandon their chief and compass his destruction. On the famous 10th Thermidor, the majority of the Mountain, including some whose hands were most deeply dyed in the blood shed during the Terror, triumphed, with the assistance of the Moderates in the Convention, over their whilom leader, and secured his overthrow and execution. But the alliance was fatal to their own ascendancy: the Convention henceforth resumed its powers it had surrendered; law regained its authority, and the Terrorists were finally crushed by the very instrument which they had called to their assistance.

EVERY EVENING AT 8

ROBESPIERRE

A DRAMA IN FIVE ACTS BY

VICTORIEN SARDOU

Rendered into English by LAURENCE IRVING

Maximilien Robespierre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	HENRY IRVING
Clarisse de Maluçon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Miss ELLEN TERRY
Olivier (<i>Son of Robespierre</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. KYRLE BELLEW
Augustin Robespierre (<i>younger Brother of Robespierre</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. F. D. DAVISS
Benjamin Vaughan (<i>of the House of Commons</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. H. COOPER CLIFFE
Lebas (<i>Member of the Convention</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. FULLER MELLISH
Buonarotti (<i>a young Corsican</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. LEONARD CALVERT
Couton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. LOCKE
St. Just	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. TAMWORTH
Old Duplay (<i>a Carpenter—Robespierre's landlord</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. BOWN
Simon Duplay (<i>Secretary to Robespierre</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. S. JOHNSON
Maurice Duplay (<i>Son of Old Duplay</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. F. HAYES
Didier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. C. H. KENNEY
Gerard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. W. GRAHAM
Billaud-Varennes (<i>of the Committee of Public Safety</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. LOUIS CALVERT
Jagot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. HATCH
Amar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. SHARP
Voulland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. BARTON
Rulh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. F. M. PAGET
Vadier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. JAMES CRAIG
Thuriot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. W. GARSTIN
Tallien	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. LAURENCE IRVING
Fouché	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. C. DODSWORTH
Lecointre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. FERGUSON
Legendre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. MORRIS
Héron (<i>a Police Officer of the Committee of Public Safety</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. F. TYARS
Count Harday de Hauteville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. JUNIUS BOOTH
De Bussey (<i>a Prison Spy</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. L. J. S. WOOD
The Recorder of the Revolutionary Tribunal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. GILBERT YORKE
Haly (<i>Head Jailor at Port-Libre</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. R. P. TABB
Another Jailor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. W. MARION
Collas (<i>a Jailor at the Conciergerie</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. J. ARCHER
Barassin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. T. REYNOLDS
Urbain (<i>a Servant</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. ERIC BLIND
A Workman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr. JENNINGS

Imprisoned at Port-Libre :

Maréchal de Mouchy	-	Mr. ELLIS	Charles Leguay	-	Mr. LIONEL BELMORE
De Broglie	-	Mr. PERCY NASH	The elder Leguay	-	Mr. FRITH
De Kersaint	-	Mr. EARDLEY HOWARD	Gournay	-	Mr. YOUNG
De Pons	-	Mr. FRANK LACY	Lavergne	-	Mr. SNOW
D'Armaillé	-	Mr. ALEC WEATHERLY	Maulelère	-	Mr. HERBERT INNES
Prévôt D'Arincourt	-	Mr. SINCLAIR	Sourdeval	-	Mr. H. G. LANE
Cottant	-	Mr. CHARLES VANE	Maleyssie	-	Mr. ERNEST MARTIN
Dossun	-	Mr. PARSONS	The young De Maillé (<i>aged 15</i>)	-	Miss MAY HOLLAND

Marie-Thérèse (<i>Niece of Clarisse de Maluçon</i>)	-	-	-	-	Miss WINIFRED FRASER
Madame Duplay (<i>Wife of Old Duplay</i>)	-	-	-	-	Miss CROSSE
Madame Lebas	-	-	-	-	Miss SUZANNE SHELDON
Cornélie	-	-	-	-	Miss GEORGIE ESMOND
Victoire	-	-	-	-	Miss IDA YEOLAND
Madame de Narbonne	-	-	-	-	Miss MAUD MILTON
Madame de Lavergne	-	-	-	-	Miss EDITH CRAIG
Mademoiselle de Bethisy	-	-	-	-	Miss CECILIA RADCLYFFE
The Maréchale de Mouchy	-	-	-	-	Miss MAUD ANSTEY
Madame Maleyssie	-	-	-	-	Miss NELLIE HUNTLEY
Charlotte Maleyssie	-	-	-	-	Miss WINIFRED KEAN
Claire Maleyssie	-	-	-	-	Miss MARTIA LEONARD
Madame d'Avaux	-	-	-	-	Miss E. F. DAVIS
Madame de Choiseul	-	-	-	-	Miss GERTRUDE CLARIDGE
Mademoiselle Lacroix	-	-	-	-	Miss EMILY ARCHER
Madame Héré	-	-	-	-	Miss ADA MELLON
Madame de Narbonne's little Girl (<i>Aged 5</i>)	-	-	-	-	Miss TARVIN
Shade of Marie Antoinette	-	-	-	-	Miss ROSITA TENNYSON

Members of the Convention, of the Committees; Ushers of the Convention; Gendarmes of the Convention;
National Guards; Police Agents; Jailors; Townspeople, &c. &c.

ACT I.

Scene. A Nook in the Forest of Montmorency - - - - HAWES CRAVEN

ACT II.

Scene 1. The Courtyard of the Prison of Port-Libre - - - - JOSEPH HARKER

Scene 2. The Place de la Révolution (now de la Concorde) - - - - MONSIEUR AMABLE

ACT III.

Scene. The Sitting-Room in Duplay's House - - - - W. HARFORD

ACT IV.

Scene 1. A Room in the Rue du Martroy - - - - W. HARFORD

Scene 2. A Hall in the Prison of the Conciergerie - - - - HAWES CRAVEN

ACT V.

Scene 1. A Room of the Committee of Public Safety - - - - W. HARFORD

Scene 2. The Hall of the National Convention - - - - MONSIEUR AMABLE

PERIOD OF PLAY—JULY, 1794.

Costumes designed by Monsieur MARCEL MÜLTZER and executed by Messrs. L. and H. NATHAN, Miss LOUIE ELLIS, Mrs. NETTLESHIP and Miss EDITH CRAIG.

Grouping etc., superintended by Monsieur CARLO COPPI. Chorus Master, Mr. R. P. TABB.

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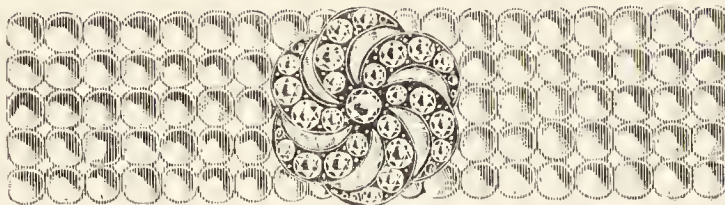
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